



VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

The following claims are added:

89. A method comprising:

receiving a frame comprising first and second fields each having a frame sync segment and a plurality of data segments, wherein the first field contains a current map and count information, wherein the second field contains a next map and count information, wherein the current map indicates location of data in a current frame, wherein the next map indicates location of data in a future frame, and wherein the count information indicates the number of frames until the next map becomes the current map; and,

processing data in the current frame in response to the current map.

90. The method of claim 89 wherein the current map and count information are contained in the same segment of the first field, and wherein the next map and count information are contained in the same segment of the second field.

91. The method of claim 90 wherein the segment containing the current map and count information comprises a data segment, and wherein the segment containing the next map and count information comprises a data segment.

92. The method of claim 89 further comprising:

maintaining a count related to when the next map will change to the current map; and,

counting down from the count based on frame times.

93. The method of claim 92 wherein the current map and count information are contained in the same segment of the first field, and wherein the next map and count information are contained in the same segment of the second field.

94. The method of claim 93 wherein the segment containing the current map and count information comprises a data segment, and wherein the segment containing the next map and count information comprises a data segment.

95. The method of claim 89 wherein the current map further indicates a coding rate for at least a portion of the data in the current frame, and wherein the next map further indicates a coding rate for at least a portion of the data in the future frame.

96. The method of claim 89 wherein the current map further indicates at least first and second coding rates corresponding to at least first and second portions of the data in the current frame, and wherein the next map further indicates at least first and second coding rates corresponding to at least first and second portions of the data in the future frame.

97. A method of transmitting a frame having first and second fields each having a frame sync segment and a plurality of data segments comprising:

inserting a current map and count information into the first field, wherein the current map indicates location of data in a current frame;

inserting a next map and count information into the second field, wherein the next map indicates location of data in a future frame, and wherein the count

information indicates the number of frames until the next map becomes the current map; and,

transmitting the first and second fields of the frame.

98. The method of claim 97 wherein the current map and count information are contained in the same segment of the first field, and wherein the next map and count information are contained in the same segment of the second field.

99. The method of claim 97 wherein the segment containing the current map and count information comprises a data segment of the first field, and wherein the segment containing the next map and count information comprises a data segment of the second field.

100. The method of claim 97 wherein the current map further indicates a coding rate for at least a portion of the data in the current frame, and wherein the next map further indicates a coding rate for at least a portion of the data in the future frame.

101. The method of claim 97 wherein the current map further indicates at least first and second coding rates corresponding to at least first and second portions of the data in the current frame, and wherein the next map further indicates at least first and second coding rates corresponding to at least first and second portions of the data in the future frame.